

Message Text

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 DLOS-09
COME-00 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00
PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 OMB-01 AGRE-00
/077 W

-----201012Z 099575 /14

P 200903Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7953
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY SEOUL PRIORITY
USLO PEKING PRIORITY
AMCONSUL HONG KONG PRIORITY
CINCPAC HONOLULU PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 7456

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, EFIS, JA, UR
SUBJECT: "FINAL AGREEMENT" REACHED IN FISHERIES TALKS

REF: TOKYO 7631

SUMMARY: SOVIETS MAY 19 RETRACTED TWO PROPOSALS MADE
PREVIOUS DAY AND ADVANCED ANOTHER. GOJ LEADERSHIP IN
"EMERGENCY" MEETING DECIDED NEW PROPOSAL ACCEPTABLE AND
INSTRUCTED CHIEF NEGOTIATOR SUZHKI TO INITIAL FISHERIES
PACT TODAY, MAY 20. IF NO HITCH DEVELOPS IN COMPARISON
OF TEXTS, FOCUS WILL SHIFT TO NEGOTIATION OF QUOTAS JAPAN
WILL BE ALLOWED IN SOVIET 200-MILE ZONE. END SUMMARY.

1. AT MEETING MAY 19, SOVIET NEGOTIATOR ISHKOV OFFERED, IN
PLACE OF TWO PROPOSALS MADE MAY 19 (REFTEL), TO INITIAL
DRAFT FISHERIES AGREEMENT PROVIDED JAPANESE CONSENTED TO
DELETION OF WORD "OTHER" IN ARTICLE 8, WHICH REPORTEDLY
READ "NO PROVISION OF THIS AGREEMENT SHALL PREJUDICE
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THE POSITION OR VIEWS OF THE GOVERNMENTS OF EITHER
COUNTRY ON PROBLEMS OF THE SEA FOR DISCUSSION AT
THE THIRD UN CONFERENCE ON THE LOW OF THE SEA, OR ON
OTHER BILATERAL RELATIONS." ACCORDING TO FONOFF
1ST EAST ASIA DIVISION DEPDIR AOKI, INTENT OF NEW
SOVIET OFFER OBSCURE, BUT HE WAS SATISFIED THAT
DELETION PROPOSED WAS IN FACT AN IMPROVEMENT OF

DRAFT FROM JAPANESE STANDPOINT.

2. ON RECEIPT OF REPORT FROM MOSCOW, PRIME MINISTER FUKUDA CONVENED TOP GOJ AND LDP LEADERS IN WHAT WAS DESCRIBED HERE AS "EMERGENCY MEETING" TO CONSIDER NEW SOVIET PROPOSAL. AOKI HINTED THAT MEETING WAS CONTENTIOUS. IN ANY EVENT, JAPANESE LEADERS DECIDED TO SETTLE, AND LATE ON MAY 19 INSTRUCTED AGMIN SUZUKI, IN MOSCOW, TO INITIAL DRAFT AGREEMENT NEXT DAY.

3. AFTER GOJ AND SOVIET GOVERNMENT SEPARATELY COMPARE TEXTS, SIGNATURE OF AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED EITHER MAY 21 OR 23, AND ATTENTION WILL SHIFT TO NEGOTIATION OF CATCH JAPANESE WILL BE PERMITTED IN SOVIET FISHING ZONE. AOKI SAID GOJ HAD AS YET NO HINT OF SOVIET INTENTIONS WITH REGARD TO QUOTAS, BUT HE THOUGHT THEY MIGHT BE ACCOMMODATING "IN ORDER TO RETAIN A MEASURE OF FRIENDLY FEELING." WITH HERRING SEASON ALREADY LOST, AND SIDE AGREEMENT ON 62,000 TON SALMON CATCH OUTSIDE SOVIET ZONE ALREADY IN HAND, HE SAID, JAPANESE WOULD NOT BE UNDER SEVERE TIME PRESSURE IN NEGOTIATING REMAINING QUOTAS.
SHOESMITH

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